

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 NSC-05 INR-07 CIAE-00

PM-04 SP-02 L-03 DHA-02 DODE-00 TRSE-00 H-01

DPW-01 SS-15 AF-08 /083 W

-----221420Z 039370 /43 L

P R 221340Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0644

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY MANILA

:USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 1170

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 2280

E.O. 11652: XGDS-4

TAGS: PINS, PFOR, SHUM, IO, AS, EAID, PT, PO

SUBJ: TIMOR

REF: (A) STATE 055674 (NOTAL), (B) THE HAGUE 1241, (C) CANBERRA 1912

1. LOCAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE FOR EUROPEAN MIGRATION (ICEM) CONFIRMED TO EMBOFF MAR 21 THAT AUSTRALIANS DUNN AND BRADY WERE IN PORTUGAL SOME WEEKS AGO MEETING WITH TIMORESE REFUGEES. VISITS OF DUNN AND BRADY OVERLAPPED ALTHOUGH TWO MEN WERE APPARENTLY ON SEPARATE OFFICIAL MISSIONS AND WORKED INDEPENDENTLY. AMCIT ON ICEM STAFF STATED DUNN SEEMED TO TAKE OBJECTIVE, BUSINESSLIKE APPROACH TO DOCUMENTATION EFFORTS. NO REPORTS ON BRADY.

2. ICEM STAFF IS IN DAILY CONTACT WITH NUMEROUS TIMORESE

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REFUGEES WHOM IT IS ASSISTING FOR ONWARD MIGRATION. VARIOUS STAFF MEMBERS CONFIRMED THAT TIMORESE WHO DEPARTED TIMOR AFTER INDONESIA OCCUPATION TELL OF WIDESPREAD KILLINGS BY INDONESIAN ARMY AFTER IT BECAME APPARENT OCCUPATION WOULD NOT BE WILLINGLY ACCEPTED BY POPULATION. ICEM HAS NOT ATTEMPTED TO DOCUMENT REPORTS AS THIS EXTRANEIOUS TO ITS FUNCTION, BUT STAFF CONVINCED THAT THERE IS SUBSTANCE TO REPORTS OF

ATROCITIES.

3. COMMENT: EMBASSY NOTES THAT KILLINGS IN TIMOR HAVE RECEIVED LITTLE MEDIA ATTENTION IN PORTUGAL. POSSIBLE REASONS FOR APPARENT TACIT CONSENSUS TO IGNORE SITUATION ARE:

-- TIMORESE ARE LAST IN LONG PROCESSION OF REFUGEES FROM VARIOUS TERRITORIES OF FORMER PORTUGUESE EMPIRE. MANY ARE UNEDUCATED, SPEAK LITTLE PORTUGUESE, AND HAVE FEW FAMILY TIES HERE;  
-- TIMORESE DO NOT PROVIDE EXPLOITABLE POLITICAL FORCE AS DO ANGOLAN REFUGEES;  
-- PORTUGUESE SOCIETY IS SATURATED WITH REFUGEES AND FATE OF TIMORESE STILL IN TIMOR IS ONE MORE UNWANTED PROBLEM WHICH PORTUGUESE CANNOT RESOLVE AND WULD RATHER IGNORE.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** INDEPENDENCE, REFUGEES, REFUGEE RELIEF, VOLUNTARY AGENCIES, MEETINGS, VISITS  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** X4  
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**Reference:** 77 STATE 55674, 77 THE HAGUE 1241, 77 CANBERRA 1912  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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